



Emergency Treatment of Athletic Dental Injuries



*Professionally-made, properly fitted custom mouthguards are recommended for all contact and collision sports.
For more information visit us online at www.sportsdentistry.usd.edu*

AVULSION (Entire Tooth Knocked Out)

Replantation within 5-10 minutes is critical for replantation. Minutes matter! If the root of the tooth has debris on it, rinse the root with water. If the root appears clean, grasp the crown between your thumb and first finger with the smooth flat surface forward (see diagram above).

If it is an upper tooth place the other hand on top of the person's head to stabilize it then push firmly and hold the tooth in place. When the tooth is seated into its original position, it must be held there by hand or with a wad of wet paper tissue to keep it in place. Do not worry about getting the tooth in "correctly" it can be adjusted by the dentist later during splinting. Bleeding can be controlled by uninterrupted direct pressure for 5 minutes.

If no one is prepared to replace the tooth, if the injured patient is unwilling or unable to cooperate with immediate replantation, or if the damage to the socket and adjacent teeth is substantial, control bleeding with pressure, place the tooth in liquid such as milk or other storage media to keep it from drying.

TRANSPORT THE PATIENT AND TOOTH TO A DENTIST IMMEDIATELY.

LUXATION (Tooth in socket, but wrong position)

THREE POSITIONS:

EXTRUDED TOOTH - Upper tooth hangs down and/or lower tooth has been pushed up.

1. Reposition tooth in socket using firm finger pressure like replantation.
2. Stabilize tooth by gently biting on towel or wet paper tissue.
3. **TRANSPORT IMMEDIATELY TO DENTIST.**

LATERAL DISPLACEMENT - Tooth pushed back or pulled forward

1. No treatment at accident scene as tooth is locked in bone.
2. **TRANSPORT IMMEDIATELY TO DENTIST.**

INTRUDED TOOTH - Tooth pushed into gum looks short

1. No treatment at accident scene as tooth is locked in bone.
2. **TRANSPORT IMMEDIATELY TO DENTIST.**

FRACTURE (Broken Tooth)

1. If broken in pieces, save the broken portion and bring to the dentist in clean water or milk.
2. The nerve of the tooth may be exposed causing pain from cold, heat and air passage. Apply a piece of wet paper tissue.
3. **THE PATIENT MAY QUALIFY FOR GAME DAY SECURITY BUT WILL REQUIRE DENTAL TREATMENT WITHIN 24 HOURS TO SAVE OR TREAT THE DENTAL PULP SOONER IS BETTER.**



Academy for Sports Dentistry

119 Fair Street

P.O. Box 364

Farmersville, N. 40122

1-800-273-1706

1-217-227-3431

www.sportsdentistry.usd.edu

The Academy for Sports Dentistry gratefully acknowledges the support of Dr. Jerome G. Harris in providing funding for this service program. The Academy would also like to acknowledge Dr. Robert Dale Budy of Columbus, Ohio for his management of the Emergency Treatment Clinic. The Academy for Sports Dentistry is a professional organization affiliated to the dental board of athletes at all 4 sports medicine departments. For more sports medicine information please contact us at www.sportsdentistry.usd.edu.

Revised 1/08

**PROPERLY FITTED
MOUTHGUARDS SHOULD BE
STANDARD EQUIPMENT**